

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Patent Office for the careful consideration accorded this Application and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the Amendment above and remarks set forth below.

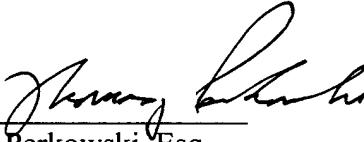
Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 9, 16 and 26 in order to avoid any basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer for prior U.S. Patent Nos. 6,346,107 and 6,652,522 to avoid any future provisional rejection under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

In view, therefore, of the present Amendment and remarks set forth above, Applicant firmly believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

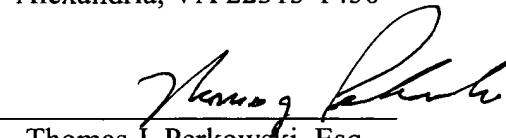
  
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Dated: March 16, 2006

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Date: March 16, 2006